SUMMIT RECORD

Fort Wayne Bible College Vol. 2, Issue 3 June 1988

STUDENTS TAKE EDUCATION ABROAD

By Professor Gerald Steele, World Mission Program Director

This September an exciting "first" will take place for sixteen Fort Wayne Bible College junior and senior World Mission majors and one World Mission Professor. It's the "first-ever" Semester Abroad Program for the College. For me, watching this concept birth, develop, and mature is exciting. The enthusiastic responses from mentors, faculty colleagues, constituents, and students prove this is definitely an idea whose time has come!

The Semester Abroad Program idea began two years ago through a conversation with Bill Gerig, Director of Alumni and Church Relations. Bill and I both spent time abroad as missionaries. We also share a mutual concern for the cross-cultural education of would-be-missionaries.

As the idea began to take shape, Brazil seemed like the logical place to begin since I was an urban church planter in that country for a number of years. And, right now the program is a reality. Participating students currently spend Saturday afternoons in pre-field orientation sessions. These sessions include everything from general information to language labs.

In the Fall we will all be living individually in Brazilian homes. Our daily schedule will include missions classes in the mornings, lunch together, and Portuguese lessons. Late afternoons, evenings and weekends will find us participating in real life field situations.

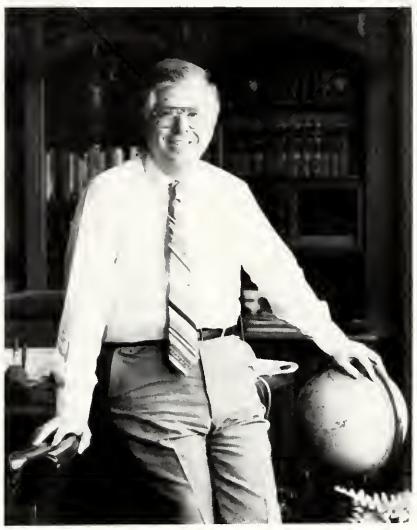
The students in the Semester Abroad Program will receive a full semester of college credit. The emphasis during the semester will be to integrate classroom exercises with ministry experience. For example, during the semester these students will take Cross-Cultural Evangelism. Students will have many opportunities to translate textbook theory into practice. Other courses taught during the semester include Brazilian Area Study, Roman Catholicism, and Portuguese. The host Brazilian church will provide each student with a variety of field work options.

Obviously, I am excited about the semester abroad program. Through our semester in Brazil, sixteen prospective missionaries will gain an understanding of the task that awaits them when they graduate from Fort Wayne Bible College and venture out to minister all over the world. ■

Next fall, 16 FWBC students will study and minister in a Brazilian city.

INSIDE...

- Graduation 1988 Pg. 3
- Rx for a Good Education Pg. 4
- Alumni Awards 16 Scholarships Pg. 5



Dr. Donald Gerig
President

If you have a question for Dr. Gerig to answer, send your letter to:

"Ask the President": c/o Summit Record 1025 W. Rudisill Blvd. Fort Wayne, IN 46807

The Summit Record is published three times a year by Fort Wayne Bible College, 1025 West Rudisill Boulevard, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46807. Telephone: (219) 456-2111. FOR ADMISSIONS, CONTACT: 1-800-292-FWBC (3922). (Outside Indiana, contact 1-800-233-FWBC).

President: Donald Gerig
V.P. for Academic Affairs: Richard Dugan
V.P. for Development & Public Relations: David Lalka
Director of College Relations: Gary Litwiller

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

What is a Bible College?

What is a Bible College? My first reaction was to not even raise this question with the readers of *Summit Record.* After all, you are people who have connection with Fort Wayne Bible College or you wouldn't be receiving this mailing in the first place!

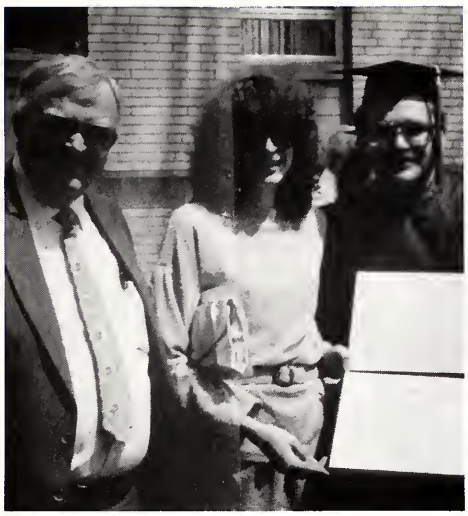
I am discovering, however, that there is a fair bit of errant perception about "Bible College" today. I hear statements like, "Bible College is where you go if you can't get into a real school," or, "What kind of job do you get after you just study the Bible?" or, "Aren't all students at the Bible College planning to be pastors?" It is especially disconcerting when I run into many people in our churches who assume that studying at the Bible College is less rigorous intellectually than studying at a liberal arts school. Often the very name, "Bible College" triggers these wrong perceptions.

So, what is a Bible College? In the case of Fort Wayne Bible College, it is a four-year, degree granting, fully accredited institution preparing people for helping and ministry-related vocations. Each student, in addition to their full program of general studies (liberal arts) and professional studies (vocational major) caries a major in Bible and theology. This allows people to be fully prepared people for service for Christ in a variety of vocations. Like any other college, many of our students go on for graduate studies to build on their education at FWBC. Others enter directly into a career in some helping profession.

Frankly, we could use your help in exploding the myths about Bible College. We're even thinking about selecting a name that would have less misconception associated with it. **We are committed to what we are doing and feel we do it well! We are excited that we are contributing something to the educational landscape that very few others are doing.** We are disturbed, however, when we are perceived as something different than what we really are.

Your help in setting the story straight is appreciated. You can help us continue to be a serious educational institution doing a quality work for the sake of the kingdom. You can help us continue to send people not only into the pastoral and missionary work, but into other significant helping professions as competent, committed, servant-leaders for Jesus Christ. Spread the good and accurate word about Fort Wayne Bible College! ■

GRADUATION 1988 • • •



Family, friends, and faculty members celebrated commencement with 1988's 50 graduates.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS RETURNS TO COLLEGE TO ADDRESS GRADUATES

Fort Wayne Bible College welcomed alumnus Bill Pannell to the campus pulpit as commencement speaker.

Dr. Pannell is a 1951 graduate of FWBC and he did additional undergraduate study at Wayne State University in black history studies. He holds the M.A. in social ethics from the University of Southern California and in 1975 was awarded the Doctor of Divinity degree (*honoris causa*) from Malone College.

From 1951 to 1974, Dr. Pannell was an evangelist. His leadership is evidenced by his work as Associate Director for Training for YFC (1964-68), Associate Evangelist/Vice President of Tom Skinner Associates (1968-74), member of the Fuller Seminary Board of Trustees (1971-74), and as a participant and speaker at various national and world congresses on evangelism.

Dr. Pannell has lectured widely on college seminary campuses, on issues in evangelism, ethnic studies, evangelism methodology, and preaching. He has been a Staley Foundation Lecturer, has delivered the Berger Lectures on Preaching at Dubuque Theological Seminary (1978), and has served as a delegate at the Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies.

Since 1974, Dr. Pannell has served on the faculty of Fuller Theological Seminary. His writings have appeared in such journals as *Eternity, The Other Side, Christianity Today, Sojourners*, and *Leadership*. ■

Joy Gerig, Director of Christian Service, converses with Dr. Pannell following his graduation address.

Rx for a Good Education

by Professor Jon Swanson, Chairperson, Division of General Studies

All colleges have general education requirements and therefore all college faculty must cope with student misconceptions about these requirements. Students ask, "Why does a pastor need to know how to write?" "Why does a missionary need to know history?" "Why should a counselor study literature?" "Why should a Christian care about art?" These questions grow from student beliefs that the result of an education should be a job and that education for jobs consists of acquiring job-related skills. This practical bias is contemporary society often prevents students (and others) from understanding the value of general education.

Perhaps the best way to understand general studies is to think of vision. A common phrase in contemporary culture is "worldview". CBS News even sells Dan Rather by talking about "American Vision, World View". Much of Christian higher education is discussing the development of Christian worldview. What is "worldview"? It is the pair of glasses used to look at life as created by God, as corrupted by sin, and as redeemable through Christ. Now, a good prescription for glasses will have certain characteristics. It will enable the wearer to discern God's creative hand in the vast expanses of the universe, in the details of a microbe, and in the living machinery of the human body. A good prescription will allow the wearer to see God's work across the sweep of history and in the processes of individual human minds. A good prescription will guide the wearer to see clearly the characteristics of audiences, making possible effective communication. A good prescription will equip the wearer to discover truth in the written expression of others who have attempted to describe human interaction with each other and with God. A good prescription will, in short, allow the wearer to see clearly both the world with God and the world without God.

Obviously, such a prescription takes time. In fact, the process is begun rather than completed while a person is in college. General studies courses provide introductions to the concepts of biology and literature, history and psychology, health and communication, art and anthropology, music and sociology. From this introduction, the student must develop the vision, training the eyes of the mind and heart and soul to discern God's working in the world. If the introduction is clear, the student will have the tools to continue the learning. The value of General Studies is not, then, in "job skills" but rather in the development of the person who is doing the job.

The Genral Studies faculty are working to provide a proper prescription. New teaching approaches, new assignments, and new courses are constantly developed to make the introductions as meaningful as possible. For example, "English Composition" assignments are tied to majors, helping students see the importance of clear expression in their professions. Courses like "Global Poverty" blend sociology, economics, and history to show the complexity of our world and the need to think carefully about the implications of solutions to complex issues. As one sign of what others think about the importance of our work, the Lilly Foundation recently granted Eunice Conrad (Literature) funds to develop a course in Third World novels, a course which will use literature to help students understand the culture of the non-western peoples.

Believing that the best way to teach effectively is to stay involved in professional activity, our faculty work far beyond the classroom. Sonja Strahm (Composition), Jim Saddington (History), Mark Gerig (Psychology), and Jon Swanson (Speach) are in various stages of graduate work in their respective fields. Deb Rupp (Physical Education) has served as Athletic Director this year and has been heavily involved in athletic conference leadership. After nearly five years at the College, Fred Van Dyke (Biology) moved to Montana to work as a researcher with the Department of Wildlife. John Schutt (Biology) will join the College in September, coming from the University of Tennessee with a reputation as an innovative teacher and a solid researcher.

Educational theorists argue that truly effective colleges must have innovative, creative, and intergrative General Studies programs. Fort Wayne Bible College is working toward that goal., believing that a Bible College has a unique responsibility to prepare effective servant-leaders -- effective because they have the prescription for clear vision. ■

Jon Swanson is Assistant Professor of Speech and Broadcasting. He holds a BA from Wheaton College, a MA from Northern Illinois University, and is a PhD candidate at the University of Texas.

Alumni Awards 16 Scholarships for the 1988-89 School Year

During Alumni Chapel on April 5, 1988, the Aumni Association awarded sixteen $700 scholarships. Scholarship recipients are listed on the right hand side of this page.

Recipients

Freshman

Camela Christen
Music
Fort Wayne, IN

Lynette Blair
Elementary Education
Saginaw, MI

Margaret Troyer
Elementary Education
Fort Wayne, IN

Richard Troyer
Christian Education
Fort Wayne, IN

Pamela Witmer
Music
Ashley, IN

Sophomores

Mary Ann Burkey
Elementary Education
Howe, IN

Kimberly Butler
Music
Mansfield, OH

Nicholas Johnson
World Missions
New Castle, IN

Randy Salway
World Missions
Fort Wayne, IN

Richard Schrock
Christian Ministries Mgmt.
Fort Wayne, IN

Michelle Crawford
Elementary Education
New Castle, IN

Juniors

Janelle DeMond
Christian Education
Fort Wayne, IN

Glen Lambert
Pastoral Ministries
Fort Wayne, IN

Todd Nelson
Pastoral Ministries
Mounds View, MN

Lisa Guegold
Christian Education
Mansfield, OH

Peter Schulz
Christian Counseling
Cortland, OH

STUDENT RECEIVES UNUSUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Aletha Petro, a Fort Wayne Bible College student, received an unusual $500 scholarship from the Carr Co. This was accomplished through a unique bartering system operated by Educational Assistance Ltd. (EAL), a non-profit organization.

Recently the Carr Co. donated surplus goods to EAL. Fort Wayne Bible College accepted these goods from EAL in exchange for tuition credits equal in value to the donated items. AlethaPetro received her scholarship from part of these tuition credits.

This makes everyone a winner! CORPORATIONS BENEFIT by receiving the tax write-off on the goods and services generously donated to make this opportunity available; COLLEGES BENEFIT by receiving materials they need and students who might not have otherwise enrolled; STUDENTS BENEFIT by receiving the financial assistance needed to pursue a college education. ■

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The life of a Capital Campaign is intriguing. Surges of commitments are followed by periods of anticipation which yield surges of giving.

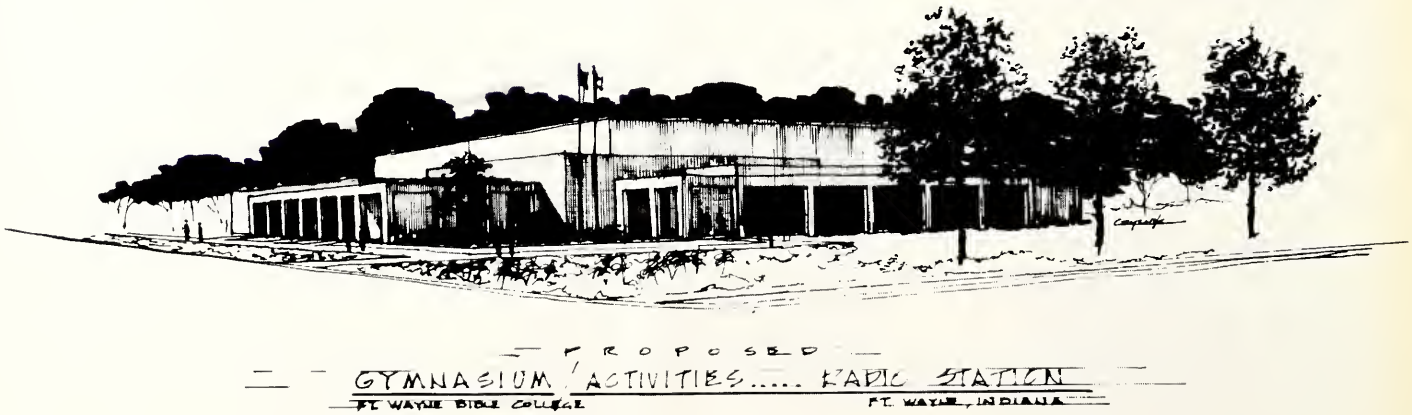
We are excited about the progress of FWBC's "Bridge to the Future" campaign. In three phases, the campaign has sought $3.2 million to retire high interest indebtedness, construct a permanent home for radio station WBCL, and build a multi-purpose Activities Center for the campus and constituency.

Phase I saw commitments of nearly $1 million from the Board of Governors for debt reductions. On August 30, 1987, WBCL dedicated its new home after raising some $600,000 through the special 1986 Sharathon.

At this writing, Phase III is within $206,000 of completion. To date, $467,000 of the $500,000 Lilly Endowment matching grant is subscribed. In addition to timely gifts from private donors, the College recently received awards from the Bryon H. Somers Foundation, Knight Foundation, Krouse, Kern and Company, Krouse Foundation, and C & E Schust Foundation. ■

Students surrounded the perimeter of the new Activities Center in a praise gathering April 28, 1988.

Board members, Alumni,, and Distiguished Guests break ground for the New Activities Center on May 6, 1988.



ALUMNI ALBUM

TWO ALUMNI HONORED

The faculty of Fort Wayne Bible College has elected two distinguished alumni to membership in Delta Epsilon Chi, the Honor Society of the American Association of Bible Colleges. Four students from the Class of 1988 were also honored with Delta Epsilon Chi memberships: Sherri Harris (Winchester, IN), Sally Reed (Fort Wayne, IN), Sally Slotterback (Ashland, PA), and Bradley Ulick (Springfield, IL).

MISS GERALDINE GERIG

After graduating from Fort Wayne Bible College in 1948 and Swedish Covenant School of Nursing (Chicago) in 1952, Geraldine made plans for missionary service in Sierra Leone, West Africa. Beginning in July of 1955 until the present she has given of herself unselfishly for the Kuranko tribes people of northeast Sierra Leone. For most of those 33 years Geraldine served at the Yifin Clinic, the only "modern" medical facility for the Kuranko people in a 2,000 square mile area. She has also been involved in translation, bookkeeping, and special ministries to Kuranko women. ■

DR. THOMAS YOUNGER

Church Planting is an important concept in Christian ministry today. Few men or women have been used of the Lord more effectively in church planting than Tom Younger and his wife Davina. Beginning with a church planting effort with seven families in Arcanum, OH the Youngers have spent most of their years of ministry either in starting churches or in encouraging and training others to do so. Tom served as pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Fort Wayne for seventeen years. It was during that time that he completed the Bachelor of Arts degree at Fort Wayne Bible College in 1968. Also during that time, under Tom's leadership, Immanuel Baptist Church developed a church planting strategy which resulted in 12 different independent sister churches being started in the Fort Wayne Area. One of those churches is Blackhawk Baptist Church, now one of Fort Wayne's largest churches.

In 1970 Tom was awarded the Doctor of Divinity Degree from Cedarville College where he serves on the Board of Trustees. From 1973 to 1982 he served as President of Western Baptist College in Salem, Oregon. For the last six years the Youngers have been ministering at the First Baptist Church of Walnut Creek, CA. ■

Homecoming 1988 Parent's Day

Mark Your Calendars!

Volleyball -
FWBC Lady Falcons VS
Kentucky Christian, Moody,
Concordia

Soccer -
FWBC Falcons VS
Concordia College

Fellowship and Fun
Chicken Barbecue

Evening Concert - DINO

Special Reunion Classes
Come see your
classmates
and friends
First Reunion - Class of 1987
5th Year - Class of 1983
10th Year - Class of 1978

Details will come in the mail.

September 1988

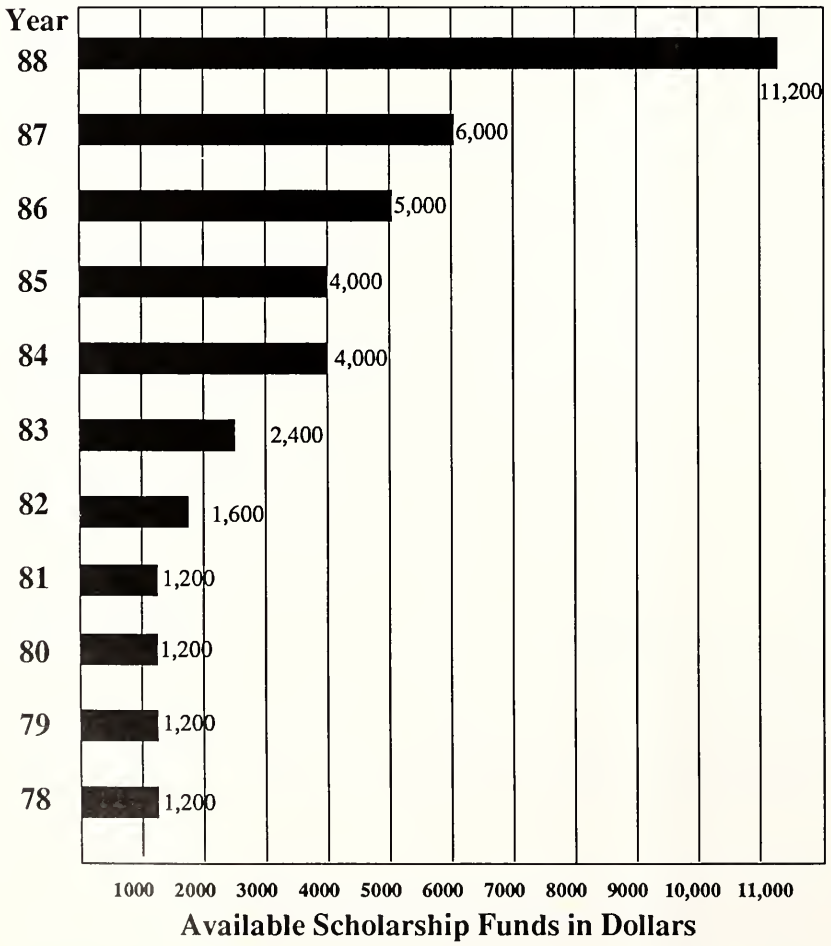
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

PHONATHON '88

Thanks FWBC Alumni -- You Have Done It Again!

After 2,085 completed calls to FWBC alumni by 53 callers, we are thrilled to report a total of $39,150 pledged during PHONATHON '88 to the Alumni Scholarship Endowment Fund. When all those pledges are paid our Endowment total will have reached $150,697. This fund has grown rapidly so that it is making a significant contribution to the financial needs of many students.

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS
AVAILABLE FROM INTEREST ON THE ENDOWMENT HAVE RISEN DRAMATICALLY!



THANK YOU FWBC ALUMNI --- KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK

1940

Duane and **Lois (Gerig) Hetmansperger g40** recently celebrated 25 years of ownership of Today's Christian Supply Center.

Levi and **Eudene Keidel g44** are in British Columbia. Levi teaches a full load in missions. Eudene teaches a weekly Bible Study to senior citizens.

1950

Thomas L. Florence g 50 is the Dean at Cedine Bible Mission in Spring City, Tenn. Cedine is a non-denominational mission that is taking the gospel to Black America

Don g51 and Rose Nabinger fs 49-50 write from Palmer, Alaska. Don is the Director of the Arctic Bible Institute.

Beth Mainhood g52 is helping the US coordinator of Women's Ministries in The Navigators. She is located in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Currently she specifically serves in ministry outreach, personal growth and teaching.

Harvey (Gunk) Ache g52 is serving as an evangelist in Zambia from June 18 to August 20. He is working with Mission Outreach, Inc. and this evangelistic tour is his 11th such ministry tour.

Lester g58 and Sharon fs 58 Meisenheimer have been missionaries to Ecuador. Recently they have been visiting Florida Missionary Churches. They also are planning a trip to Canada and then to Pennsylvania. Soon they head back to Ecuador.

1960

Janet Miller g61 is involved with teaching and evangelistic outreach with International Missions in Hong Kong.

Ray fs 61-63 and Jo Burris g62 are in Puerto Rico representing Family Centered Education. They have just completed new offices and classrooms which will be used for seminars on marital team building, stress control and parent-teen relations.

Pat Hartung g61 writes from the Philippines that all is going well in revising the New Testament.

Joyce (Woodward) Kool fs 48 and her husband Orville are presently pastoring the College Avenue Baptist Church in Normal, IL.

Gene g62 and **Juanita Bertolet** are homeland based missionaries. Gene is the art editor for the Outreach Magazine from OMS International.

NEWS NOTES

1960 cont.

Char Binkley g65 general manager of WBCL, FM 90 was elected to the Board of Directors of the National Religious Broadcasters.

Betty (Mullet) Hochstetler g66 is a pastoral counselor and a psychotherapist in Danvers, Illinois.

Pat Pittsenbarger g66 is looking forward to a furlough from Benis, West Africa. She has been teaching health in various villages in the area.

Ron and **Nancy (Lindland) fs 66-68 Mahler** are on the staff of The Navigators in Hawaii.

Helen Inman g68 has teaching and administrative responsibilities for SIM/ELWA in Liberia. She hopes to be on furlough in Ohio sometime in June.

1970

Marla Selvidge g70 has recently had a book published by Herald Press entitled *Daughters of Jerusalem.* The book is a scholarly work on the role of women in the Bible. Marla is currently assistant professor of religion at Converse College in Spartansburg, South Carolina.

Dan and **Cheryl (Warner) Jore g71** are planning to return to St. Paul, MINN. and begin deputation work out west this summer before they return to Brazil in August.

Doug g71 and Pam (Carey) Barcalow g71 will be spending the summer in East Troy, Wisconsin where they will serve as Counselor/coordinators at Timber-lee Christian Center. They will work with 70 camp counselors. Their children will also spend the summer at the Center.

John g73 and Sharon (Torry) Charles g74 are working with Abundant Living Ministries in Pennsylvania. As director, John has planned a 3rd Annual Family Festival for May as well as a Positive Parenting Seminar.

Verlin Rice g73 has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Indiana Association of Residential Child Caring Agencies. Verlin is the administrator of Fort Wayne Lifeline Homes, Inc.

Janet Nickel g74 is teaching in Sierra Leone, West Africa.

Deb Greenawalt g75 is living in California and is a student advisor at the Language Center of the Pacific. She works with international students.

1970 cont.

Randy g77 and Martha (Wright) Oser g77 have accepted the assistant pastorate in the Bryan Alliance Church in Bryan, Ohio.

Adam fs 77-80 and Annette **Newcomb** are in Ft. Lauderdale working with the Campus Life Program.

Evelyn K. Tomilinson g79 was promoted to Specialist III in the health programming department at State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company in Bloomington, Illinois.

Mark and **Debbie (Rupp) Blosser g79** are in Guam working with Trans World Radio.

1980

Alvin g80 and Jonanna (Steiner) Van Bumble fs 77-78 are preparing for a one year internship in China where Alvin will teach English. Alvin will soon complete his Masters of Divinity at Christian Broadcasting University (CBN).

Bill fs 80-81 and Roberta Rees g66 returned to Japan in September after furlough.

Doug g82 and Kim Beutler g81 have moved to a new home where they continue their Youth for Christ ministry in Fort Wayne.

Stan g82 and Regina Cushing g82 are living in Lowell, Maine. Regina is working in Boston at the United Methodist Church's New England Headquarters in

Joy Ayabe g82 is teaching in Japan. Starting this fall, she will serve as the advisor for short term missionaries who will be teaching English with CORE.

J. Andre Sonnal g82 continues to serve as a Haitian government representative while preaching frequently in the local churches.

Shirley (Cupp) Burgess g84 was among eight national winners recognized for using children's literature in the classroom.

JoAnne Kingsbury g84 is serving the Lord in Guatemala as a bookkeeper. She will be returning to the states soon.

Tim g85 and Sylvia Cooke fs 77-79 have accepted a pastorate at Friends Community Church of Sturgeon Bay.

Theodore G. Jenkins Jr. g85 has taken business management courses since graduation and has opened the Abundant Life Christian Bookstore in Fort Wayne.

1980 cont.

Phil Sutherland g86 is an OMS missionary and directs the mission's camping ministry in Spain.

Rhett Butler g86 has been named as Chaplain/counselor and supervisor at the Fort Wayne Rescue Mission.

Joe Butora g87 is a youth director working at St. John's United Church of Christ. He has recently been honored as an "Outstanding Young Man in America".

Marcia Fry g86 is serving for at least one year at the Kodailcanal International Christian School in India as a teacher of English.

Ted g88 and Sari (Pafford) Harris g88 are serving at the Waynedale Community Church of the Christian and Missionary Alliance as the pastor.

WEDDINGS

Jana Habegger g79 and Lynn Dettmer. August 1, 1987, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Ossian.

Karen (McKenna) g82 and Marvin **Pawlowski** celebrated their first wedding anniversary April 4, 1988.

Deborah Kester fs 85-86 and **Timothy Prentice fs 85-86.** September 12, 1987 in Fort Wayne, IN.

Laura Berring fs 86-87 and **Richard Andrews fs 85-88.** March 5, 1988 in Hayward, Wisconsin.

Jennifer (Haworth) current student and Kevin **List.** January 23, 1988 at Greenville, OH.

BIRTHS

Steve g76 and Roxanne (Ogden) Gerig g76, a son, Dan Stuart born March 20, 1987. Their address is 2901 Elmside, Houston, TX 77042.

Carol (Bloomberg) and **Al Seawell g77** a son, Brandon Matthew born December 18, 1986. He was welcomed by Ryan 7, Jeremy 4, and Lindsey 2. They live at 3200 Goshen Road, Newtown Square, PA 19073.

Continued on page 10

Births continued from page 9

Bruce g79 and Dianne (Yerke) Rocke fs 77-79 a daughter, Mary Eileen, born January 20, 1988. Sister to Sarah, Rachel and John. Address: 2213 Clearwater, Bloomington, IL 61704.

Gary g86 and Teresa (Stuckey) Carlyle fs 81-83. a daughter, Jessica.

IN MEMORY

Jacob Bergen fs 21-22. October 7, 1985.

Myrtle Bradley Wishart g26. April 19, 1988.

Rev. Harold W. Spencer, Sr. fs 28-30. February 10, 1988. He resided in Orlando, FL.

Harold E. Wiswell, g31. Date unknown. He lived in Elkhart, IN.

Luella Miller Kratzer g33. February 16, 1988 in Lima, OH.

Herman Wagner g38. May 11, 1988. Rev. and Mrs. Wagner (Helen Moughler) g40 came to Fort Wayne Bible College on May 6, 1988 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the class of 1938.

Alva Herron fs 55-56. Date unknown, died in Florida.

IN HONOR

Carl Sovine g69, successfully defended his doctoral dissertation in April 1988. Confirmation of his PhD in Religion and Personality from University of Iowa will be in August. He is currently Associate Professor of Counseling and Program Director of Counseling at Fort Wayne Bible College.

ALUMNI

Over 375 alumni and friends of Fort Wayne Bible College gathered on Friday evening May 6 for a great time of food, fellowship and inspiration.

FWBC Chorale Sounds Together stands ready to sing after a testimony from 1988 graduate Tom Foster.

Geraldine Gerig g'48, missionary nurse, is congratulated by Dr. Richard Dugan, Academic Dean, on being inducted into Delta Epsilon Chi, the honor society of the American Association of Bible Colleges.

BANQUET ---'88

Our special congratulations to the 50th Anniversary Class of 1938.

The 1948 King's Men Quartet had a great time of reunion and music and received a standing ovation from the alumni.

Rev. Don Rohrs g'48 and Rev. Dave Rupp g'38 obviously enjoying time together during the Fellowship Hour.

The Class of 1948 at their reception in Bethany Hall Lounge.

Commencement speaker Dr. Bill Pannell g'51 (Professor at Fuller Theological Seminary) chats with Dr. Zenas g'51 and Esther Gerig g'52 of Caribbean Graduate School, Jamaica.

The 1948 class advisor Dr. Jared Gerig g'29 and his wife Mildred g'28 with the King's Men Quartet: Donavon Gerig, Bob Quay, Leroy Caddy, and Don Rohrs.

DON'T MISS IT NEXT YEAR -- MAY 5, 1989

AN OPEN LETTER TO T.V. EVANGELISTS. . .

Dear Sir:

In this year of major catastrophes for T.V. evangelists, I hestitate to add to your list of headaches. However, while you are undoubtedly scrutinizing your own ministry for potential land mines, this may be a good time to also rethink your "give-a-gift-to-get-a-gift" philosophy. I refer to your weekly free gift offer which strategically placed at the end of every broadcast, attempts (with varying degrees of taste) to entice viewers to send a donation to your ministry.

Over the months, I have been offered free medallions; books on all topics; glow-in-the-dark praying hands; gold-plated, cross-shapped pilgrimage to the Holy Land. All these are "free" if I write you this week "remembering that it is only through donations like mine that this ministry is possible."

Though this is undoubtedly true, I am offended by this saccharine and slightly underhanded way of offering a gift for a gift. If God is using your ministry, I believe He can and will prompt me to give so it may continue without the bribe of a genuine leather Bible cover inscribed with my name. It bothers me that a percentage of my gift must go to purchase these tokens, knowing that a high enough portion of each donation already is allocated for "overhead expenses."

Realizing that not everyone shares my irritation, I would like to suggest you compromise by extending your gift-for-a-gift offer only every other Sunday. This way, those who like the incentives would still have them available on a regular basis. Meanwhile, those of us who would rather skip the promotional talk in favor of a five minute longer sermon could tune in on alternate Sundays.

Not only would this compromise keep your viewers happy, it would also give you an added promotional gift: a free calendar listing the Sundays with and without a "free gift" ending. Even I will send for that one.

Sincerely,

Didymus

Didymus is a regular feature from EMC Today, a monthly publication of the Evangelical Mennonite Church, Inc. 1420 Kerway Ct., Fort Wayne, IN 46825. Used by permission.

Summit Record
Fort Wayne Bible College
1025 W. Rudisill Blvd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46807

Address Correction Requestea

5196
Miss Wava Bueschlen
7525 Leswood Court
Fort Wayne IN 46816

Non-Profit Organization
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Fort Wayne, Ind.
PERMIT No. 267